



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Congaree National Park

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## Congaree News Release

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### Congaree SpiderBlitz 2007

Want to do more than just sit back for the Halloween season?! On Saturday, October 20, 2007, The Old-Growth Bottomland Forest Research and Education Center will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual SpiderBlitz at Congaree National Park. Volunteers are invited to come learn about what we know about spiders in the park and then do real scientific data collection to help researchers learn more. Dr. Bob Wolff, a park researcher, has currently documented over 200 spider species in the park, but the total number is likely closer to 300-400, so we need eyes and hands to help collect them. At last year's event, over 40 volunteers helped collect several hundred specimens of >150 spider species, including 40 of which were newly documented in the park.

Anyone and everyone, from ages 5-105, is invited to participate in one or more sessions:

Session I: 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Session II: 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Session III: 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Each session will begin at the Harry Hampton Visitor Center at Congaree National Park. The session will open with a presentation on spiders at Congaree, spider research, and spider safety. The group will then take a short hike to a collection location to help collect samples. Collection sites will be located off the park trails. At the end of the session the group will hike to the lab at the Old-Growth Bottomland Forest Research and Education Center, where there will be microscopes set up to view the spiders.

Volunteers should wear comfortable, closed-toed shoes and weather-appropriate clothing. Bring a water bottle and snack. Please register in advance with the park front desk at 803.776.4396. For more information about Congaree National Park you can also visit our website at [www.nps.gov/cong](http://www.nps.gov/cong).